

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

13. (new) A method to identify a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:

acquiring identification information including a plurality of identification items for identifying an identification target computer system;

comparing the identification items of the acquired identification information to identification items of identification information of identification target computer systems registered in advance;

adding weighting values each representing a difference between an identification item of the acquired identification information and a corresponding identification item of the identification information of the identification target computer systems to obtain a sum value, said weighting values being defined for the identification items respectively;

judging, based on the sum value and a predetermined threshold value, whether the identification target computer system can be identified;

concluding that the identification target computer system can be identified when the sum value is smaller than the threshold value; and

concluding that the identification target computer system cannot be identified when the sum value is not smaller than the threshold value.

14. (new) An apparatus to identify a computer, the apparatus comprising:
an identifier registration portion for storing a plurality of identifiers each including a plurality of identification items for identifying an identification target computer system;

an identifier reception portion for acquiring identification information including a plurality of identification items for identifying an identification target computer system;

a weighting value addition portion for adding weighting values each representing a difference between an identification item of the acquired identification information and a corresponding identification item of the identification information of the identification target computer system to obtain a sum value, the weighting values being defined for the identification items respectively;

an identification judgment portion for judging based on the sum value and a predetermined threshold value, whether the identification target computer system can be identified; and

a conclusion portion for concluding that the identification target computer system can be identified when the sum value is smaller than the threshold value, and concluding that the identification target computer system cannot be identified when the sum value is not smaller than the threshold value.